



September 29 - 30, 2020

Midwestern Universities for Global Health

The 7th annual collective meeting of Midwestern academic institutions that are advancing global health community engagement, education, and research

2020 Meeting Executive Summary

Impact of COVID-19 on Women and University Global Health Programming

Purpose

The Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) Office of Global Health hosted a two-day virtual meeting on September 29-30, 2020 with a special focus on the impact of COVID-19 on women and Midwestern university's global health programming. The purpose of the meeting was to convene and share the diverse knowledge, programming, and experiences of Midwestern universities engaged in global health community engagement, education, and research. During this global pandemic, now, more than ever, there is an understood emphasis on global health. The general public has personally experienced the interconnectedness of our *global community*. They have also deepened their witness to the already known racial injustices within the local and institutional contexts. University global health programs have forcefully embraced opportunities to reflect on enhanced efforts to genuinely engage.

“We have come to commiserate together and relish in the spirit of global health”

Diane L. Gorgas, MD, Professor - Clinical, Vice Chair of Academic Affairs Department of Emergency Medicine, Executive Director of the Office of Global Health, The Ohio State University

Benefit

This meeting provided increased awareness of the efforts co-occurring amongst Midwestern universities in relation to the pandemic: hear new ideas to incorporate and strengthen our own programming/training activities; connect directly with regional multidisciplinary global health professionals; and to see a snapshot of virtual innovations strengthening engagements and changing educational efforts. This virtual meeting informed both individual and institutional efforts.

Background

This was the 7th annual meeting of this esteemed regional group. Finding a need to engage more intimately and directly beyond the annual Consortium of Universities for Global Health (CUGH) meetings, in 2014, the Medical College of Wisconsin originated this group in collaboration with the University of Illinois Chicago Center for Global Health. This regional meeting has also intended to intentionally include non-CUGH member academic institutions. The inaugural meeting was meant to ensure we were connected to our Midwestern peers in global health administrative roles and to share best practices and leverage collaborations. The format of this 2020 meeting brought us back to the original reason we convened initially -- a discussion of university administrative global health leaders sharing with one another their successes and challenges during the COVID pandemic so we may have an exchange of ideas and processes that informs our individual campus efforts and further identify opportunities for partnership and collaboration.

Midwestern Universities for Global Health Annual Meeting Locations, Hosts, Registrants							
Year, date	2014 December 3	2015 December 2	2016 November 4	2017 November 30- December 1	2018 December 6-7	2019 September 13-14	2020 September 29-30
Location	University of Illinois at Chicago	Rush University Chicago	Northwestern University Chicago	Washington University in St. Louis	Barnes Jewish College St. Louis	University of Wisconsin Madison	Medical College of Wisconsin
Host(s)	Center for Global Health & Medical College of Wisconsin Office of Global Health	Academic Affairs	Center for Global Health & Office for International Relations	Institute for Public Health, Global Health Center	Goldfarb School of Nursing	Global Health Institute	Office of Global Health
Attendees	35	53	88	97	98	102	143
Academic Institutions	20	18	16	18	15	16	35

Day 1, November 29, 2020 | 3rd Annual Meeting of the Women in Global Health – Midwest Chapter

Since the founding of the Women in Global Health (WGH) - Midwest Chapter at Washington University in St. Louis in 2018, we have incorporated a meeting of its members and interested participants alongside this larger meeting. This year's chapter meeting highlighted the impact of COVID-19 on women locally and internationally. Participants received a briefing on the [Women in Global Health COVID 50/50 Initiative](#) which came into light when it was clear that women were not part of the COVID-19 decision-making tables. To confront this power and privilege, which undermines global health, by preventing women from contributing equally to the fight against challenges like COVID-19 and to further ensure gender-responsive approaches, WGH brought forward "Five Asks for Global Health Security":

1.	Include women in global health security decision making structures and public discourse
2.	Provide health workers, most of whom are women, with safe and decent working conditions
3.	Recognize value of women's unpaid care work by including it in formal labor market, redistributing unpaid family care equally
4.	Adopt a gender-sensitive approach to health security data collection/analysis and response management
5.	Fund women's movements to unleash capacity to address critical gender issues

Source: <https://www.womeningh.org/5-asks>

Each annual meeting has highlighted the host institution's efforts in women's leadership development as it did in 2019 at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Alongside the Office of Global Health, the 2020 meeting was co-hosted with MCW's Center for the Advancement of Women in Science and Medicine and the Council for Women's Advocacy. This Center and Council have a shared mission to advance the careers of women at MCW through purposeful data analysis and strategic programs that enhance opportunity and improve workplace climate. The Center's "I Will" campaign is meant to build an academic environment where all genders can thrive and is a personal "call to action" to the entire MCW community to make public pledges to personal actions. To date, over 1,300 students, staff, and faculty have chosen one of 18 pledges as, I Will: Be A Workplace Ally; Support All Parents – Maternal Bias Awareness; Mitigate Unconscious Bias – Microaggressions; Create Belonging – Support Inclusion; or Create a Sex and Gender Harassment Free Environment. Resources for completing their pledge were shared and a review of its results is currently in progress. Preliminary results of the impact of COVID-19 on MCW women faculty members was also presented. Data shows academic productivity is down for all and down more for women with children. Feelings of successful balance started out about the same for both genders, but women with school-aged children feel much less successful during COVID-19. They have also been the main source of childcare.

The main takeaway from the three panelists was "women do." Themes were: 1. women are the primary providers of health and homecare and that was seldomly acknowledged; 2. women have borne the largest burden of the global pandemic from caretaking to domestic violence but have also been part of the solutions (i.e. reinvent economic growth, remote work, oversight of school-aged children education); and 3. Academic institutions need to get involved in efforts to gain gender equity in leadership roles.

"Women need to be at the decision-making table during COVID-19 and beyond. Our regional chapter brings together women leaders and allies to overcome barriers to achieving gender equality in our region."

Caline Mattar, MD, Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine, Infectious Disease, Washington University in St. Louis,
Women in Global Health-Midwest Chapter President

The close of the meeting emphasized that Gender Transformative Leadership promotes policies and programs that seek to transform gender relations to promote equality and achieve program objectives for all genders equating to Gender Equality. Movement building opportunities were presented and included the following action items: 1) Engage in policy making in at the state level; 2) Inform and support global advocacy; 3) Bring visibility to and build the capacity of women in global health in your partner countries; 4) Give visibility to women leaders from low- and middle-income countries and emerging leaders; and 5) Build a network to share knowledge, best practices and work with sister WGH chapters (Australia, Asia, Canada, Chile, East Africa, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Norway, Pakistan, Portugal, Somalia, Sweden) for support and collaboration with the larger [WGH movement](#).

This meeting had 146 registrants representing 32 institutions and can be viewed on its [video replay](#).

Day 2, November 30, 2020 | 7th Annual Meeting of Midwestern Universities for Global Health

On day two, 23 academic institutional global health leaders gave mini presentations (10 minutes) on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the university’s global health programming: to students’ education, faculty’s global engagement, and leadership. These three prompts were posed for each university/college global health entity to respond to and they selected their representative(s) to present.

1. How is global health now increasingly recognized?
2. How did your global health educational and research activities change?
3. How have you leveraged its emphasis among your leadership?

Presenters shared common words and phrases when describing their COVID-19 impact on global health programming to include: 1) “Pivot” to new opportunities; 2) “Virtual” to extend reach; 3) lack of travel reduced our carbon footprint. Newer words included: de-colonizing, de-siloing, and de-boundaring when describing a reflective and refined approach to global engagement. Most reflected on a renewed sense of collaboration across their respective academic degree programs in and outside of the health sciences. And simulations/mentorship/trainings have changed and been enhanced and increased with the increased use and access of technology platforms, respectively.

What is evident is that the pandemic has shown that the planet is even more interconnected. Several themes emerged from this meeting and what was most evident is that everyone is coping in similar ways.

<p>The decolonization of global health has been validated</p>	<p>Neo-colonization of global health openly discussed More scrutiny with sustainable goals alignment Equity at the top of focus Show humility (the U.S. has a lot to learn in terms of pandemic screening and control) Ethics of partnerships to assure efforts are bilateral and reciprocal This is a time to reflect / refine / pause / reset global health activities Work together towards innovation Ensure sustainability: solutions and funding</p>
<p>New pedagogical strategies occurred</p>	<p>“The Community of Practice Global Health” Simulations, mentorship, trainings changed and enhanced and increased access We need Global Health systems, it’s now a virtual world Support of leadership is so critical</p>
<p>There is evidence of impact due to decreased travel</p>	<p>Suspension of all international activities vs. re-defining these activities Funding constraints came with financial remedies Positive for environment and decreased carbon footprint Saved personal and professional time and cost Put local into global; “Glocal” expanded – expansion and strengthening of local engagement</p>
<p>Global Research Pivoted</p>	<p>Emphasize research ethics: agenda should always driven by host; power dispersed Opportunity to contribute to local public health departments Transnational collaborative research now critical Increase in manuscript development and publishing De-siloed global health efforts on our own campus (outside health sciences) Pandemic response increased clinical activity</p>

The field of Global health continues to find ways to be innovative and flexible. There are ways to connect and continue global health efforts even when travel is not possible. We are more similar than we are different, even across a spectrum of public and private institutions.

This meeting had 153 registrants from 35 institutions. Video replay [here](#).

Conference Evaluation

Participants' feedback was documented through a post-conference, five-question online survey that was distributed via email. These survey results demonstrated significant enthusiasm for this annual meeting and included content ideas for 2021. Survey respondents noted the value of hearing from a variety of key global health leaders across the Midwest and obtaining their respective contact information as a tool for future collaborations.

Next Steps

The federal government's financial assistance via the "Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act" or the "CARES Act" supported institutions of higher learning during the safer at home closure early on in the pandemic. Its impact is evident and an evaluation on social determinants of health locally and globally would be valuable. An institutional host for 2021 is also needed.

Meeting Co-sponsors



The 2020 meeting website is here: <https://www.mcw.edu/departments/office-of-global-health/events>

Day 1 | September 29, 2020 | Active contributors

Facilitator: Welcome

Tiffany Frazer, MPH; Office of Global Health Manager, Adjunct Instructor of Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, Medical College of Wisconsin

Briefing: Women in Global Health COVID [Operation 50/50](#) Initiative

Caline Mattar, MD, Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine, Infectious Disease, Chapter President, Women in Global Health – Midwest, Washington University of School of Medicine in St. Louis

Presentation: The Efforts of the [Center for the Advancement of Women in Science and Medicine](#) and the [Council for Women's Advocacy](#) at Medical College of Wisconsin

Libby Ellinas, MD, Director of the Center for the Advancement of Women in Science and Medicine, Associate Dean for Women's Leadership, Professor of Anesthesiology, Medical College of Wisconsin

Panel: The Impact of COVID-19 on Women

Lauren De Veau, Director of Institutional Relations and Global Engagement, Universidad Antonio Ruiz de Montoya, Lima, Peru, Partner of Marquette University

Lucy Mkandawire-Valhmu, RN, PhD, Associate Professor, College of Nursing, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Salma Abadin, MPH, Action Researcher and Evaluator, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Adjunct Instructor, Carroll University, Executive Director, Feeding Villages

Joyce L. Sanchez, MD, FACP, Medical Director, Froedert & the Medical College of Wisconsin Travel Health Clinic, Assistant Professor of Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases, Medical College of Wisconsin

Day 2 | September 30, 2020 | Presenters listed in alphabetical order by their academic institution

Carroll University: [Thomas Pahnke](#), EdD, MS, PT, ATC, Dean College of Health Science

Concordia University: [Peggy McLaughlin](#), RN, MPH, PhD, Associate Professor of Nursing; [Julie Parve](#) DNP, FNP-BC, APNP, Associate Professor of Graduate Nursing

Consortium of Universities for Global Health: [Keith Martin](#), MD, PC, Executive Director

Goldfarb School of Nursing at Barnes Jewish College: [Tamara Otey](#), PhD, RN, Assistant Professor of Nursing

Indiana University: [Adrian Gardner](#), MD, MPH, Director of the Center for Global Health, Associate Dean for Global Health, School of Medicine

Loyola University Chicago: [Amy Blair](#), MD, Director of the Center for Community and Global Health

Marquette University: [Christine Schindler](#), PhD, RN, CPNP-PC/AC, Clinical Associate Professor, Coordinator of Pediatric Acute Care Graduate Option, College of Nursing

Medical College of Wisconsin: [Stephen Hargarten](#), MD, MPH, Associate Dean for Global Health, Professor of Emergency Medicine

Michigan State University: [Travis Gordon](#), DO Assistant Director of Medical Education for International Studies in Yucatan Mexico, Assistant Professor of Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine, Institute for Global Health

Northwestern University: [Ashti Doobay-Persaud](#), MD, Assistant Professor of Medicine (Hospital Medicine) and Medical Education, Co-Director of the Center for Global Health Education

Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine & Science: [Carl Lawson](#) PhD, MPH, MA; Director of Interprofessional Global Health, Interim Director of Learning Environment Diversity - Chicago Medical School, Assistant Professor of Department of Foundational Sciences & Humanities - Chicago Medical School

Rush University: [Dina Rubakha](#), MEd, Academic Program Manager

The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center: [Diane L. Gorgas](#), MD, Professor - Clinical, Vice Chair of Academic Affairs, Department of Emergency Medicine, Executive Director of the Office of Global Health

The University of Chicago: [Olufunmilayo Olopade](#), MD, FACP, OON, Walter L. Palmer Distinguished Service Professor, Associate Dean for Global Health, Director of the Center for Global Health

University of Illinois at Chicago: [Stacey Chamberlain](#), MD, Director of Academic Programs

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign: [Will Sander](#), DVM, MPH, DACVPM, Assistant Professor of Preventive Medicine and Public Health, Director of DVM/MPH Joint Degree Program, Affiliate of the Center for Global Studies

University of Health Sciences and Pharmacy in St. Louis: [Stephanie Lukas](#), PharmD, MPH, Interim Director of Global Health and Equity Education, Assistant Professor of Pharmacy

University of Minnesota: [Shailendra Prasad](#), MD MPH FAAFP, Executive Director & Carlson Chair of Global Health of the Center for Global Health and Social Responsibility

University of Norte Dame: [Heidi Beidinger-Burnett, PhD, MPH](#), Director of Master of Science in Global Health, Eck Institute for Global Health

University of Toledo: [Kris Brickman, MD](#), Chief Physician Executive, Director of Global Health Program, Senior Associate Dean for Innovation, Professor of Emergency Medicine

University of Wisconsin - Madison: [Christopher W. Olsen, DVM, PhD](#), Director of Graduate/Professional and Capstone Global Health Certificate Programs, Office of Global Health, Department of Academic Affairs, School of Medicine and Public Health, [James Conway, MD](#), Associate Director for Health Sciences, Professor of Pediatrics; [Janis P. Tupesis, MD](#), Associate Director of the Global Health Institute

University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee: [Anne Dressel, PhD, CFPH, MLIS, MA](#), Assistant Professor of Nursing, Director of the Center for Global Health Equity, College of Nursing

Washington University in St. Louis: [Caline Mattar, MD, FAAP](#) Assistant Professor of Medicine, Women in Global Health-Midwest Chapter President; [Victor Davila-Roman, MD](#), Associate Director of Global Health Center

Wayne State University: [Kristiana Kaufmann MD, MPH](#), Co-Director of the Global and Urban Health Section Director of the Department of Emergency Medicine; [Ijeoma Nnodim Opara MD](#), Co-Director and Assistant Program Director of Internal Medicine and Pediatrics Residency